

Montana Board of Research and Commercialization Technology
Board Meeting Teleconference
March 16, 2007

Members John Youngberg, Chairman

Attending: Marty Connell
Jim Davison
Mike Dolson
Paul Tuss

Others Dave Desch, Executive Director

Attending: Jane Todd, Administrative Specialist
Marty Tuttle, Dept. of Commerce Chief Legal Counsel

I. Call to Order

Chairman Youngberg called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from 11/9/06 Board Meeting

Chairman Youngberg asked for discussion of the minutes of the November 19, 2006, Board meeting.

Motion: There was no discussion and Marty Connell moved to approve the minutes. Jim Davison seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

III. Discussion of Proposals Submitted 3/1/07 and Schedule for Making Funding Decisions

A. Process to be used to make funding decisions

The Board discussed the process to be used to make funding decisions. Dave Desch suggested holding a series of three meetings to evaluate the proposals and make funding decisions. At the first meeting, the goal would be for the Board to come to a consensus regarding the relative merit of each proposal, and decisions would be made regarding which applicants would be invited to make presentations. At the second meeting, selected applicants would make presentations to the Board, which would be followed by a discussion of the relative merit of the proposals. At the third meeting, funding decisions would be made.

Action: A schedule for making funding decisions was agreed upon:

- May 3 & 4 – Meet in person to evaluate and rank proposals. Determine which applicants will be asked to make a presentation to the Board.
- May 31 – Meet in person to hear presentations and continue discussions regarding proposals.
- June 18 – Meet by telephone and make final funding decisions.

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B. Status on Outside Technical Expertise

The Board discussed the possibility of contracting with outside experts to assist with the evaluation of certain technical applications. The Board requested that Dave Desch discuss the matter with the Department Director to see if this might be an option available to the Board.

IV. Public Comment

Chairman Youngberg asked for public comment. Speaking on his own behalf as a private citizen, Marty Tuttle brought up Project #08-26 *Innovative Commercialization Strategies for Clean Coal and Geologic Carbon Sequestration in Montana*. He stated that carbon sequestration is going to be a critical component of any energy policy in Montana and asked the Board to consider funding Project #08-26 for that reason.

V. Other

Dave Desch reported Jane Todd's promotion to Administrative Specialist with a position upgrade and higher pay band. This process involved rewriting the previous position description to more accurately describe the functions of the position.

VI. Adjourn

Marty Connell moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Dolson seconded the motion. All in favor, Chairman Youngberg adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Youngberg, Chairman